

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive Officer

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS – Agricultural Commission – Approve the reappointment of John Nitta to Seat 4 representing the Nursery Industry.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve the reappointment of John Nitta to Seat 4 representing the Nursery Industry.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Agricultural Commission is to promote and protect agricultural interests in Placer County for present and future generations. Make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding land conservation act properties; make recommendations on other issues affecting agriculture and timber in the County. The Committee is composed of nine representatives of the following industries: One Timber, One Livestock, One Fruit and Nut Farming, One Field Crop – Rice Farming, One Agricultural Processing, One Small Farm Industry, One Foothill Farm Industry, One Citrus Industry and One representative of the Nursery Industry each serving four-year terms. The committee meets quarterly and more frequently as determined by the Commission up to a maximum of twelve meetings per year. Meetings are held in the Planning Commission Chambers, 3091 County Center Drive, Auburn.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

cturner@placer.ca.gov

From: John C. Nitta [mailto:john@hrnursery.com]
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2009 9:15 AM
To: Christine Turner
Subject: RE: Ag Commission - Reappointment

Christine:

I would be happy to serve for another 4 years. I'm proud to be on the Ag Commission, and we all serve the great purpose of promoting/preserving Agriculture. I'm honored to serve again.

Thanks!
John

John C. Nitta
President
High Ranch Nursery, Inc.
phone voice: 916-652-9261 x 111
phone fax: 916-660-0676
visit us at: hrnursery.com



PLACER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

11477 E Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603-2799 (530) 889-7372 FAX (530) 823-1698

CHRISTINE E. TURNER

Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights and Measures

March 23, 2009

TO: Ann Holman, Placer County Clerk of the Board

FROM: Christine Turner, Agricultural Commissioner

SUBJECT: Reappointment of John C. Nitta to the Placer County Agricultural Commission

John C. Nitta currently serves on the Placer County Agricultural Commission as the Nursery Industry representative. Mr. Nitta was originally appointed to this position by the Placer County Board of Supervisors in June, 2001. Mr. Nitta is the owner of High Ranch Nursery in Loomis, CA, a wholesale nursery that has supplied ornamental nursery stock to the green industry for nearly 30 years. Their typical wholesale customers are landscape contractors, retail nurseries, and municipalities and they primarily serve northern California and northwestern Nevada.

In addition, High Ranch Nursery is one of only three growers participating in the UC Davis Arboretum All-Stars program and offering these proven performers to retail outlets. All-Stars are field tested and proven to perform well in the valley. Most are drought tolerant, provide form and color and aesthetic beauty, provide wildlife habitat, and are easy-to-grow. All meet the criteria of "sustainable" - that is: low water use, low chemical use (little or no pesticides or fertilizers required), lower maintenance, and ecologically sound in matching the plants to the local climate and soil needs. High Ranch Nursery also offers retail sales of Natives Plants.

Mr. Nitta was instrumental in drafting and fine-tuning the changes to the Placer County Zoning Ordinance that pertain to plant nurseries and crop production that recognized wholesale plant production nurseries as agricultural production consistent with the California Food and Agricultural Code. Mr. Nitta is thorough and thoughtful in his analysis of the issues facing the broad range of agricultural businesses in Placer County and solution oriented. I am honored to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the reappointment of John C. Nitta to another four year term on the Placer County Agricultural Commission as the Nursery Industry representative.

cc: Megan Ciafardoni

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

PURPOSE: Promote and protect agricultural interests in Placer County for present and future generations. Make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding land conservation act properties; make recommendations on other issues affecting agriculture and timber in the County.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Yes

COMPOSITION: Composed of nine (9) members representative of the following industries: One Timber, One Livestock, One Fruit and Nut Farming, One Field Crop - Rice Farming, One Agricultural Processing, One Small Farm Industry, One Foothill Farm Industry, One Citrus Industry and One representative of the Nursery Industry. Term is 4 years. Appointed by the Board of Supervisors as designated in County Code 2.927. The County Farm Advisor shall serve as an ex-officio member. Established by Ord. 4514-B dated 06/15/93, Amended by Ord. 4864-B. Ord. 5076-B 01/09/01.

MEETINGS: Meetings will be held at least quarterly and more frequently as determined by the Commission up to a maximum of 12 meetings per year. Meetings are held in the Planning Commission Chambers, 3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA 95603.

COMPENSATION: Members of the Commission shall receive \$40.00 per meeting attended, actual and necessary expenses incidental to the proper execution of their duties, and such necessary traveling and other official expenditures necessitated by their official duties as shall be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

COUNTY CONTACT PERSON

Christine Turner, Ag Commissioner
(530) 889-7372
11477 E Ave
Auburn, CA 95603-2799

CONTACT PERSON

Tonya Rust, Secretary
(530) 889-7372
11477 E Ave
Auburn, CA 95603-2799

CURRENT MEMBERS

SEAT # 1

Tony Aguilar
REPRESENTS: Citrus Industry
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 5/20/2011

SEAT # 4

John C. Nitta
REPRESENTS: Nursery Ind
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 6/30/2009

SEAT # 7

Wayne Vineyard
Chair
REPRESENTS: Rice Crop Ind
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 12/31/2011

SEAT # 10

Ex-Officio
Sharon Junge
REPRESENTS: N/A
TERM LENGTH: BOS Pleasure
APPOINTED BY: BOS

SEAT # 2

Daniel K. Macon
REPRESENTS: Livestock Ind
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 6/30/2012

SEAT # 5

Stewart Perry
REPRESENTS: Ag Processing Ind
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 3/21/2012

SEAT # 8

William C. Morebeck
REPRESENTS: Small Farm Ind
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 12/31/2009

SEAT # 3

Larry Jordan
REPRESENTS: Timber Ind
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 12/30/2011

SEAT # 6

Jim Brenner
REPRESENTS: Fruit/Nut Farm
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 6/30/2012

SEAT # 9

Patricia L. Beard
REPRESENTS: Foothill Farm
TERM LENGTH: 4-years
APPOINTED BY: BOS
EXPIRES: 12/31/2009